

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Ben A. HITT et al.

Examiner: Clow, Lori A.

Serial No.: 10/628,136

Art Unit: 1631

Filed: July 28, 2003

Confirmation No.: 4523

For: **QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL FOR ELECTROSPRAY
IONIZATION PROCESSES**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Issue Fee
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

A statement of reasons for allowance was set forth in the Notice of Allowance mailed on November 28, 2007 in connection with the above-identified application.

While the Applicants agree that the pending claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth in the Examiner's statements, the Applicants submit that the invention as recited by the claims and as described in the present application is patentable over the art of record for reasons in addition to those listed in the Examiner's statement. For example, Applicants note that the Examiner's statements characterize elements of some of the claims. Applicants also note that the language of the claims as allowed defines the invention and the language in the Examiner's statement should not be construed as limiting the claims in any manner. Moreover, the claims contain recitations in addition to those stated by the Examiner that may provide additional bases for patentability over the art of record. Accordingly, the Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of different

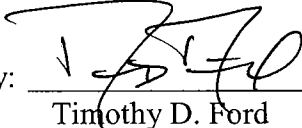
scope than those in the present application. For example, such claims may not necessarily need to include the elements identified in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the present application.

This statement commenting on the reasons for allowance is timely submitted.

Dated: FEBRUARY 26, 2008

COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP
ATTN: Patent Group
777 6th Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20001
Tel: (703) 456-8000
Fax: (202) 842-7899

Respectfully submitted,
COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP

By: 
Timothy D. Ford
Reg. No. 47,567